

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A gel comprising a carbon nanotube and an ionic liquid, wherein the ionic liquid is a salt which assumes a molten state at or very near room temperature, said gel being capable of assuming a fluid state when an external force is applied.

2. (Original) The gel composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbon nanotube is a single-walled carbon nanotube.

3. (Previously Presented) A method for producing the gel composition of claim 1 comprising a carbon nanotube and an ionic liquid, which comprises a step of pulverizing, in the presence of the ionic liquid, the carbon nanotube by applying a shearing force thereto.

4. (Original) The method for producing the gel composition as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a step of subjecting the product of the pulverization to centrifugal separation.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for using the gel composition of claim 1 comprising a carbon nanotube and an ionic liquid, which comprises the step of forming a desired shape from said gel composition by subjecting the composition in a fluidized state to application of an external force by a printing, coating, extrusion or injection operation, and then a step of removing the ionic liquid from said gel composition by bringing said shape in contact with a solvent capable of dissolving the ionic liquid or an absorbent capable of absorbing the ionic liquid.

6. (New) A gel consisting of carbon nanotubes and an ionic liquid, wherein the ionic liquid is a salt which assumes a molten state at or very near room temperature.

7. (New) The gel composition as claimed in claim 6, wherein the carbon nanotube is a single-walled carbon nanotube.

8. (New) The gel composition as claimed in claim 6, wherein the gel is capable of assuming a fluid state when an external force is applied.

9. (New) A method for producing the gel composition of claim 6 comprising a carbon nanotube and an ionic liquid, which comprises a step of pulverizing, in the presence of the ionic liquid, the carbon nanotube by applying a shearing force thereto.

10. (New) The method for producing the gel composition as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a step of subjecting the product of the pulverization to centrifugal separation.

11. (New) A method for using the gel composition of claim 6 comprising a carbon nanotube and an ionic liquid, which comprises the step of forming a desired shape from said gel composition by subjecting the composition in a fluidized state to application of an external force by a printing, coating, extrusion or injection operation, and then a step of removing the ionic liquid from said gel composition by bringing said shape in contact with a solvent capable of dissolving the ionic liquid or an absorbent capable of absorbing the ionic liquid.

12. (New) A gel composition formed by a method which comprises pulverizing carbon nanotubes by applying a shearing force to a mixture consisting of carbon nanotubes and an ionic liquid, wherein the ionic liquid is a salt which assumes a molten state at or very near room temperature.